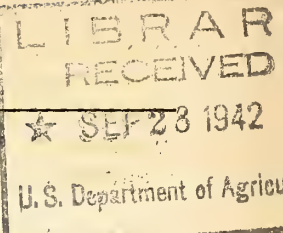


Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



WARTIME WORK OF STATE EXTENSION SERVICES

(Digested From Reports of State Extension Directors)

Summary No. 21.

August 1, 1942

1,913
A2W26

CONNECTICUT (July 17).--Neighborhood leader system has been named "The Connecticut Volunteers"; local leaders designated "neighborhood volunteers." System used for first time in scrap rubber collection campaign; again for garden and canning inventory. Farm people responding favorably to system and finding ways to use it for solution of local problems.

Study completed on rates charged by farmers for custom work with farm machines; published in series of Wartime Living Folders. Object, to find out what prices were considered fair for various kinds of equipment in 1941 as basis for rates in 1942. Increased neighborhood use of machinery expected as result.

Class of women farm workers trained free at university with cooperation of Connecticut Land Army and Extension Service. Women taught milking, harnessing and driving team of work horses, caring for poultry, cows, and other livestock, driving tractor, and routine milk-processing tasks. Course expected to show how much practical farm work can be taught inexperienced women in short space of 2 weeks and what sort of farm hands they will make.

Campaign planned for more cutting of cordwood for home use. Local chairmen will find out which landowners have standing wood to sell and which dealers can supply axes and saws. Folder to be published for use in campaign.

All 4-H events -- short course, fairs, exhibits -- canceled to conserve transportation facilities. Local "hike and bike" exhibits for club members to be developed.

Three new Wartime Living Folders published: Clothes for the Duration; Pots, Pans, and Priorities; and Home-Raised Meat.

HAWAII (July 20).--Detailed wartime programs for 4-H and adult clubs worked out. 4-H Clubs will have slogan, "Victory Is Our Objective." Adult club slogan, "All Out for Freedom." Each club to have foods and nutrition project and select other phases. Counties will formulate own programs.

Extension economist working on plans to facilitate marketing of plantation-grown produce through Office of Military Governor.

Daily radio talks on emergency homemaking given on two Honolulu stations since December.

County agents concentrating on education in use of emergency farm equipment and repair of old machinery, filing crop claims for farmers whose farms are taken by Army, expanding insect and disease control program to reach more gardeners, home swine production, use of monthly Outlook in making planting schedules, raising Muscovy ducks and rabbits.

Home rabbit raising increased greatly as result of extension campaign. On Kauai 2,000 families raising rabbits as home meat producers.

Extension offices continue as clearing houses for farmers needing labor and laborers wanting farm work.

Wartime needs are giving new impetus to home canning, preserving, and storing. Cooperating with OCD on nutritional education. Emphasizing fuller use of vegetables -- outer leaves, tops, and peelings -- and use of inexpensive cuts of meat.

MISSOURI (July 1).---St. Charles County good example of neighborhood leader system achieving results. In area threatened by flood and levee weakening, neighborhood leaders spread the word to farmers and in two hours had 100 men and seven trucks at work on levee. Families were moved out and 10,000 acres of land, mostly in corn and wheat, was saved.

Each county reporting neighborhood meetings on rubber and iron salvage, organization of transportation to conserve tires, and 7-point program to check inflation.

Forty counties have farm placement cooperator in each community, to keep lists of men available for labor. Result, available labor utilized to fullest extent, including part-time workers. In one county over 100 farmers hired help through placement group.

Survey showed no farm home labor shortage exists that farm homemakers cannot take care of.

Encouraging producers to get hogs to market early. Methods of feeding and pushing hogs to quick finish taught.

Held food-preservation meeting in Kansas City for Victory Garden enrollees, made plans for use of canning center.

Attempting to meet egg production goal. Producers constantly reminded of need for good breeding and management, range shelters, pox control, elimination of egg waste; 8 or 10 times more fowls to be immunized against pox this year than in past.

News stories prepared to show how soil conservation is an investment in fertility maintenance.

24 county 4-H lamb shows held, as result of distributing ewes to clubs last November. In one show 77 of 193 lambs were marked choice. Fleeces produced, shorn, and packaged by 4-H members also shown.

Investigating possibility of harvesting increased soybean acreage and storing soybeans after harvest. Castor-bean plantings well started.

In one county (St. Francois) all 1,200 4-H members enlisted in rubber and scrap salvage campaign; 900 in food-production projects.

Training home demonstration agents in conducting sewing-machine clinics. They will train leaders to help farm women clean and adjust machines. Safe dry-cleaning methods demonstrated for clothing conservation.

MONTANA (July 16).--Neighborhood leadership system now functioning and leaders have participated in rubber campaign. Now participating in fat salvage program and in carrying information to all rural people on price control. Series of short statements dealing with price control sent to all agents for reproduction and distribution to leaders.

Every county now ready to meet any emergency that may develop so far as fire control work is concerned.

Farm labor situation acute. Plans worked out by extension agents in many towns for recruiting labor among town people. Number of towns have organized crews of 50 to 100 people who have volunteered to go out and assist farmers during peak periods of harvesting season. In some instances such crews already at work assisting in putting up of feed crops.

NEBRASKA (July 18).--Fire wardens and Victory captains have been picked for each township in practically all counties. Work in remaining counties will continue after harvest. It has been stressed in training fire wardens that equipment should be made handy on every farm for fighting fires. Selection and training of fire wardens proved valuable in some counties where fires were accidentally started in fields of standing grain. In one 700-acre field where fire was started by exhaust from grain truck, the fire wardens, with assistance of farmers of community and men of nearby towns, extinguished fire after burning of only about 40 acres. Another fire started in same manner in a 40-acre field of wheat caused a total loss as there was then no organization for fighting fire in the community.

Harvest has been hindered by shortage of labor. In some sections merchants in the towns organized themselves into shocking squads and went out in the evenings after their stores were closed and worked until dark. The farmers helped, paid for the work done, and the money was donated by the merchants to some worthy cause.

Fall Victory Gardens being planned. Canning demonstrations planned in some 35 counties for July and August. 20 counties having freezer locker demonstrations on storing fruits and vegetables. Clean milk campaign being organized. Nebraska is finding that its milk standard is too low to qualify for use at the five new ordinance plants. Campaign will hinge on more careful handling of milk after milking, cooling equipment, and better care from farm to market.

Suggestions being made for use of straw for constructing temporary laying houses to meet building material shortage.

Salvage campaigns, including salvaging of fats, continuing.

SOUTH CAROLINA (July 25).--Community and neighborhood organization progressing. Now, 7,319 leaders actively engaged, about 1 for each 12 farm families. 1,029 leadership training meetings held. Total of 8,283 county, community, and neighborhood meetings held to further program, attended by 168,037 farm people. 67 100-percent demonstration communities organized in 44 counties. About 18,000 farm families taking part in 75-percent food and feed production program. 13,593 4-H members enrolled in Food-for-Victory program in 45 counties.

All members of one representative 4-H Club (Rainbow Lake) report canning and drying fruits and vegetables, 64 percent report more poultry and gardens, 35 percent more sirup and honey, 28 percent more hogs, milk, corn and wheat products.

Many dairymen following 5-point program to conserve tires and trucks: Deliveries every other day, charging bottle deposit, daylight delivery only, no wholesale delivery Sunday, no special delivery to homes.

Experimenting on construction of inexpensive sun, oil, and electric fruit and vegetable drying cabinets to find one to fit need of average farm family.

In 45 counties 80,792 acres of peanuts planted for oil. Circular, Peanuts for Victory, distributed all counties. Campaign carried on in entire State through circular letters, newspaper articles, other activities. Assisted 13,273 farmers to obtain seed peanuts.

Poultry, egg, milk production pushed in most counties. Assistance given in placing cows. Communities organized to market eggs and dairy products.

81 boll-weevil control demonstrations given in 22 counties. Farmers assisted in buying blackstrap molasses, calcium arsenate, or other materials for control.

WYOMING (July 15).--Neighborhood leadership system set up and functioning in all but one county. Used so far for survey of grain on hand and amount of storage space available and under construction, for scrap rubber drive, fire precautions, sugar rationing.

With seasonal fire hazards increasing, agents are improving and strengthening fire-control organizations. Some counties holding all-day training meetings in fire-fighting methods and fire control at which sound pictures shown. Entire families come to such meetings, bring picnic lunch. Complete system for reporting forest fires and getting fire-fighting assistance being organized for each county.

Neighborhood leader-training meetings held in 12 counties to discuss inflation, its threat to farm people, the 7-point program, and farmers' part in controlling inflation.

Home economics workers cooperating with county nutrition councils to promote use of enriched bread; better nutrition; educational work for campaign on canning and preserving fruits and vegetables; distribution of information on sugar allotments and canning and cooking with less sugar.